

BristolCon 2013 Programme

Programme Room 1

Time	Description
9:50	Welcome: Joanne Hall
10:00	Creating A Culture – Building A Working Fantasy / Sf Society: Worldbuilding: you want to change some of the rules to make things interesting, but you still want people to buy into the world you've created. Rocks, trees and dragons may give you a setting, but unless your protagonist is alone on an uninhabited planet, people (human or otherwise) will have to be organised somehow. How do you set about designing an original and yet believable society? What are the most ingenious societies we've seen in SF&F - and what might they tell us about ourselves? Dev Agarwal (M) Mary Robinette Kowal Robert Harkess Stephanie Saulter Peter Sutton
10:50	Reading: Mary Robinette Kowal
11:00	Guest of Honour - Storm Constantine: Ian Whates Storm Constantine
11:50	Reading: Ian Whates
12:00	Re-Telling Fairy Tales: Fairies have been revelling in a surge in popularity recently. What is it that makes fairy tales so endlessly fascinating? Sarah Ash (M) Emma Newman Scott Lewis Dolly Garland Justin Newland
12:50	Reading: Emma Newman
13:00	Guest of Honour - Mark Buckingham: Paul Cornell Irma Page Mark Buckingham
13:50	Setup
14:00	Book Launch followed by Author & Artist Signings: Ian Whates
14:50	Break
15:00	How To Poop In A Fantasy Universe, And Other Grubby Goings-On: We had Toilets in Space at last year's BristolCon, but what about toilets in fantasy? Pre-industrial life was pretty mucky and disgusting, but a lot of fantasy in books, TV and film waves this away. People have white teeth and no obvious lice. What do we lose by failing to acknowledge the realities involved - and if we're going to have fantasy toilets (and toothbrushes), could we do a better job of making them interesting? Dev Agarwal (M) Ben Galley Myfanwy Rodman Lor Graham Max Edwards
15:50	Reading: Ben Galley
16:00	Guest of Honour - Philip Reeve: Emma Newman Philip Reeve
16:50	Reading: Philip Reeve
17:00	Magic In Fantasy: How does magic work in fantasy? Do you need to design a system - how do you come up with rules for magic? How do you decide what constraints to put on your magic users, to stop your story being a story about godlike beings who can never be in real danger? Jonathan Wright (M) Anne Lyle Storm Constantine Snorri Kristjansson Paul Cornell
17:50	Reading: Paul Cornell
18:00	Beyond Arthur: We continue to mine the Arthurian legends for fantasy novels, film and TV, but there's a wealth of more obscure myth and legend anchored in the landscapes and collective memories of Britain, including the South West. Our panel discusses some of the potential inspirations that lurk beyond the beaten paths, in the forests and lakes beyond Avalon. Gaie Sebold(M) Roz Clarke Catherine Butler Philip Reeve Scott Lewis
18:50	Reading: Catherine Butler
19:00	GSV Farewell, My Friend.: Sadly, Iain M Banks passed away last June. The panel raise a wee dram in his honour, and talk about how the Culture novels have had such a massive impact on SF in recent years, leading to a revival of far-future space opera. Why have they had such an impact? And how did Iain Banks manage so successfully to bridge the gap between SF and mainstream literature? The panel talk about the impact IMB has had on their own work, and on SF in general, reminisce about our friend, and reveal their own Culture Ship names. Cheryl Morgan (M) Gareth L. Powell Juliet E McKenna Max Edwards Dev Agarwal
19:50	Reading: Juliet E McKenna
20:30	Grant Sharkey

Programme Room 2

Time	Description
9:50	Welcome: Cheryl Morgan
10:00	Seriously Inventive Ways Of Killing People: The panel kicks back and spins their wheels.... OF DEATH... how many ingenious ways can you think of to dispatch an unfortunate, or deserving, victim? Anne Lyle (M) Sara Jayne Townsend Janet Edwards Doug Smith Alex Shepherd
10:50	Reading: Anne Lyle
11:00	My World Is Not Your Sandpit: Is imitation the sincerest form of flattery or a violation of the author's intellectual property rights? Are there any merits to opening up fiction into a shared project, or should a writer's vision of their world be protected from incursions? If so, how? Catherine Butler (M) David Gullen Juliet E McKenna Rob Haines Amanda Kear
11:50	Reading: David Gullen
12:00	The Evolution Of Genre: One month it's vampires, the next it's zombies. How has genre writing evolved over time, and what do you think the next hot trend will be? Have some genre staples had their day, or will the vampire always rise from the grave? Cavan Scott (M) Joanne Hall Jonathan L. Howard Lou Morgan Dev Agarwal
12:50	Reading: Joanne Hall
13:00	Humans are weird - Presentation: Amanda Kear
13:50	Reading: Jonathan L. Howard
14:00	Break
14:50	Break
15:00	Comics – Art And Literature With Speech Bubbles: Comics and Graphic novels are enjoying a surge in popularity at the moment, possibly due to Hollywood buying up every superhero option they can get their sticky mitts on. But they still seem to carry a stigma of nerdiness about them. Why is this? And should a great comic ever be regarded as great art, or literature? Cheryl Morgan (M) KT Davies Mark Buckingham Su Haddrell Simon Breeze
15:50	Reading: Storm Constantine
16:00	Routes To Publication – Small Press Publishing: Small press authors and publishers come together to discuss the pros and cons of keeping it petite. Sara Jayne Townsend (M) Chrissey Harrison Cheryl Morgan Jonathan Wright David J Rodger
16:50	Reading: David J Rodger
17:00	How Science Got Its Groove Back: Recently, both on TV and in real life we have seen resurgence in the kind of popular science that feels like it's been missing for years. Is it all down to that Cox chappie? We've been inspired by the antics of Commander Chris Hadfield and his magic flannel, Felix Baumgardener's breathtaking freefall from the edge of space, and the final flights of the shuttle fleet. How is science inspiring current and future generations? And how is this influencing SF? Peter Sutton (M) Cavan Scott Rosie Oliver Alex Dally MacFarlane Dave Bradley
17:50	Reading: Rosie Oliver
18:00	Plausible Critters: We see a lot of creatures in SF and fantasy that are just horses or dogs in cheap disguises. Conversely, we see interesting alien life forms that are hopelessly implausible. When sticking wings on a rabbit and calling it a snoogle just won't do, how can you create weird, wonderful and convincing critters? What are some examples of the best and worst critters in fiction? Max Edwards (M) Snorri Kristjansson Stephanie Sautler Jaine Fenn Gareth L. Powell
18:50	Reading: Snorri Kristjansson
19:00	Are Friends Electric?: Robots and AI have come a long way in recent years, becoming more responsive and life-like (sometimes unnervingly so!) We may be on the verge of building robots that can care for human beings - are we heading in the direction predicted by Asimov? And is it a good thing, or could we be opening a can of shiny metallic worms? Robert Harkess (M) Ian Whates Jaine Fenn Nick Walters Emma Shortt
19:50	Reading: Jaine Fenn

Kaffeklatsch Room

9:50	
10:00	
10:50	
11:00	Philip Reeve
11:50	
12:00	Jaine Fenn
12:50	
13:00	Dave Bradley
13:50	
14:00	Break
14:50	
15:00	Storm Constantine
15:50	
16:00	Jonathan L. Howard
16:50	
17:00	Emma Shortt
17:50	
18:00	Ben Galley
18:50	
19:00	Anne Lyle
19:50	
20:30	Gaming

Convention Bar

14:00	Author signings
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Art Room

14:00	James Ledger - live digital art demonstration
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Dealers' Room

20:30	Quiz
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